Lutheran Herald

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H. Armstrong Ro

"ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE SHEPHERDS" BY PLOCKHORST

Cover photo, by Raymond M. Olson,
is the Lutheran Church in Bethlehem

XXXVII . . . NUMBER 51
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Lutheran Herald

ristmas Joy

S. J. Rude

the festivals celebrated by the children of men, is one that stands out as the most joyful of all. s Christmas. At Christmas time the whole world to be turned into a sea of gladness. Faces beam- ith joy are seen everywhere. Man for once seems get self and find pleasure in making others happy. one is happy and feels as though he should do ning to cause happiness.

why all this Christmas joy and happiness? The of the Lord was the first to speak of Christmas he came to the shepherds on the Bethlehem fields lessed night long ago and said to them, *"Fear or behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy shall be to all people. For unto you is born this the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the*

s Christ is the source of all Christmas joy! It is rthday! That day He was born as the Savior of orld. It is this Gift of God that has brought, and ntinues to bring, such great joy to the world at mas time. And this joy should not be only for days, but should continue to characterize us the year through. Somehow, however, it is always ed at Christmas time as the wonderful story of vior's birth is told over and gain.

how sad that not all who te Christmas find their joy in th of the Christ Child. There illions of people who never think of the Christ Child at Christmas time. They, too, may appear to be happy, but their joy is of a different type. They may speak of Christmas happiness, but it is not the beautiful story of the Christ Child. Their whole "Christmas spirit" is based upon the words, *"On earth peace, good will to men." "On earth peace"* is made to mean that there shall be an end to wars and an end to all our troubles. *"Good will to men"*—to be kind to your neighbors, having a heart, showing brotherly love, and so forth—as good as that may be. But that is not all there is to the Christmas message. We also have the words of the angel, *"Glory to God in the highest."* This truth is often forgotten altogether. Thus they too may speak of Christmas joy, but it is not a true and lasting joy.

Without Christ there can be no real and lasting Christmas joy! Without Him Christmas is like an empty shell. For the lights of the Christmas tree die, but Christ is the Light of the World which shines forever. And the Christmas tree, whose evergreen branches are a symbol of everlasting life, is soon stripped of its ornaments and is cast out upon the fire, but Christ is the true Tree of Life that abides forever. What disappointments the presents of Christmas often bring. And how short-lived they are. How soon does the happiness they bring pass away. The toys are soon broken, the sweetmeats soon eaten, and the donors together with their presents are forgotten. But the present which God has given to the world sheds new joys upon us every morning and grows dearer to us as the years go by. "Sweeter as the years go by," we sing.

May this abiding joy in the newborn Savior be our Christmas joy, and may we take it into our hearts and spread it in our homes, among our friends, and into the sin-stricken world.

"Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift" (II Corinthians 9:15).

LUTHERAN HERALD — O. G. Malmin, *Editor*
GLADYS WOGEN, *Assistant to the Editor* • HERMAN E. JORGENSEN, *News Editor*
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Carol Writer From the Berkshire Hills

Vincent

When the Rev. Edmund Hamilton Sears wrote his beautiful carol, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," did he carry in his memory a picture of the stars bending down over his native Berkshire Hills? It is quite possible. To one who has visited that section of New England where Pastor Sears grew up, no rural region could seem more attractive and inviting. The country is green and rolling; all around are streams, woodlands, and open fields.

It was amid such scenes that Edmund Sears was born, in a humble farm home at Sandisfield, Massachusetts, in 1810. On his father's side he was of direct Pilgrim descent; an ancestor had come from Holland to join the Plymouth Colony in 1630 and to establish a home on Cape Cod. Religious influence was still strong two hundred years later, for Edmund's father never led his sons out into the fields in the morning without first reading a passage from Scripture. The study of nature and of the Bible together helped shape the boy's mind.

The father had another remarkable interest, for his son was later to write: "My earliest recollections are associated with his reading, or rather chanting, of poetry." Though not a college man, the elder Sears had a genuine fondness for books and for the great English poets.

Work on the farm was hard, but with such a background it was not surprising that the twelve-year-old boy started to write poems on his own. These he would recite to a select audience of alder bushes out in the fields.

Money was scarce and schools were few and far between in those days, but somehow, by the time he was sixteen, Edmund managed to enter Westfield Academy. His funds ran out, so he had to leave after nine months. Nevertheless, the youth's interest in education was so strong that he resolved to go to college. At Union College in Schenectady he made such a notable record as an English student that in his senior year he was made an editor of the college paper.

After graduating, young Sears tried studying law, but gave it up to take a teaching job at Brattleboro Academy. He still had not found himself. There he developed an interest in theology, and after a period of study under a member of the academy faculty, Edmund went down to enter Harvard Divinity School, where he was graduated in 1837.

The young minister's first charge was out in tier country of Ohio. He worked as a missiona Toledo settlement for over a year, but went New England when he heard that a church in Massachusetts, was looking for a pastor.

As a preacher he soon began to be noticed. called to a larger church at Lancaster, Mass but the duties were too much for his frail stre he suffered a breakdown. Seeking rest and leisurely atmosphere, he retired to a small far his health improved, the Wayland congregatio him to return to his old pulpit, and he acce stayed on for seventeen years.

His last charge was at Weston. There life cl a tragedy. One day while climbing a tree in his he lost his footing and suffered such serious that he was never again a well man. Death in 1876.

It is curious how those whose names were well known are quickly forgotten by later ge Hailed as one of New England's most brillian ers, Sears had fat salaries dangled before hi hope that he would leave his rural parish. He a a distinguished name for himself in the boo His celebrated religious work, *The Fourth G Heart of Christ,* drew praise from many rea he also edited a clerical magazine.

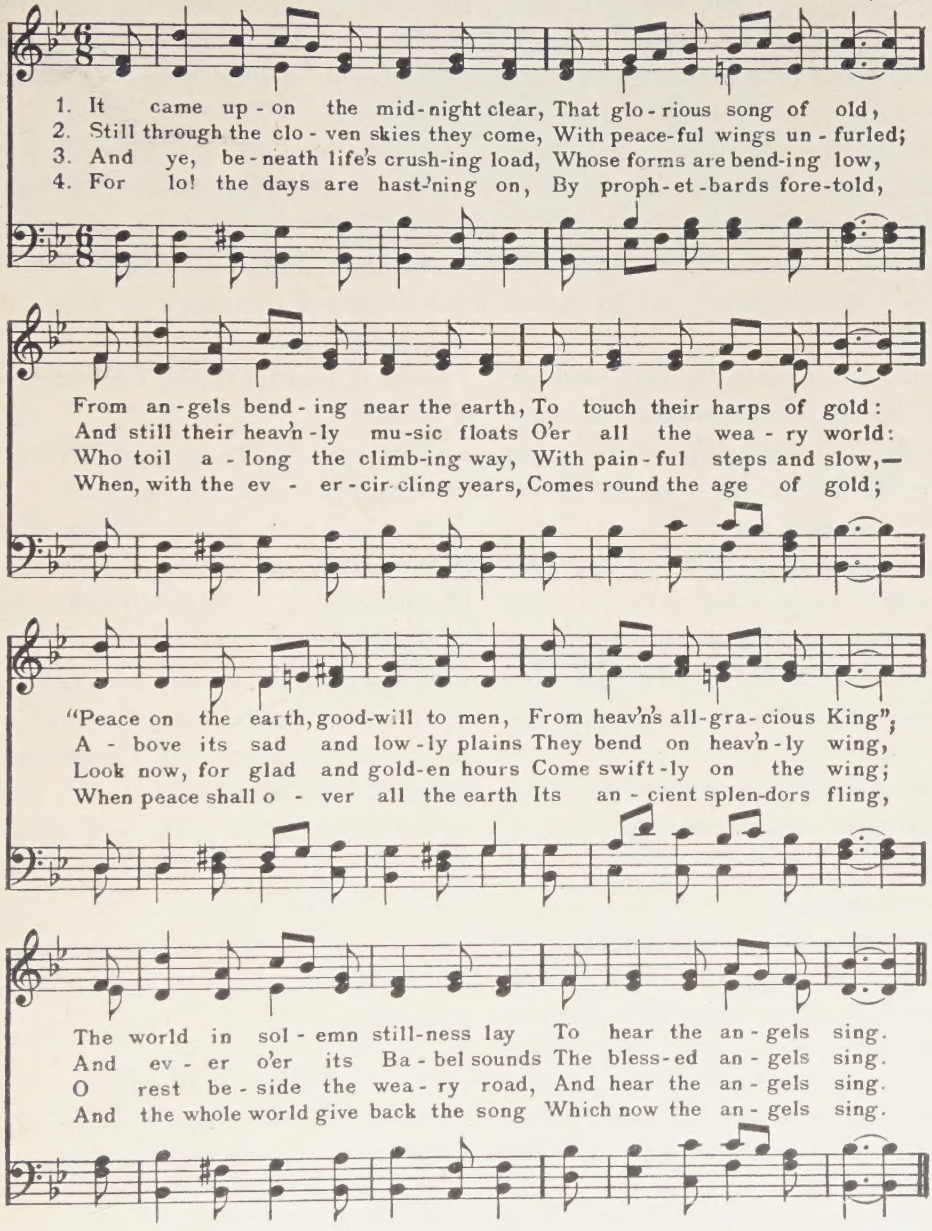
Dr. Sears' contemporaries could not help impressed by these achievements. Little co dream how unimportant they would seem Religious writings and sermons—all are now f and have been gathering dust for some time o bookshelves. The famous divine's sole claim t brance rests on two simple Christmas carols on the Listening Ear of Night," and "It Ca the Midnight Clear." Of the first of these, Oliv dell Holmes said it was one of the most beautif in the English language; the other is now sung out the English-speaking world in the joyous

After all, the popularity of Edmund Sea famous carol is not so surprising, for few Christmas have a more modern implication. T author not only caught a vision of the sky fil the glory of the angel throng, but he also loo ward to the day when wars would be a thin past and mankind would be knit together in loving, brotherly humanity.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

CAROL C.M.D.

Edmund H. Sears, 1850 — Richard S. Willis, 1850


1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace-ful wings un - furled;
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush-ing load, Whose forms are bend-ing low,
4. For lo! the days are hast'ning on, By proph - et - bards fore-told,
From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n - ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world:
Who toil a - long the climb-ing way, With pain - ful steps and slow,—
When, with the ev - er - cir-cling years, Comes round the age of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men, From heav'n's all-gra - cious King";
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on heav'n - ly wing,
Look now, for glad and gold-en hours Come swift - ly on the wing;
When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen-dors fling,
The world in sol - emn still-ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
And ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless-ed an - gels sing.
O rest be - side the wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing.
And the whole world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

The World's Most Beautiful Rose

Hans Christian An

(*Translated from the Danish by Bernhard H. J. Habel)

Once upon a time there was a mighty queen in whose garden were found the most beautiful flowers for every season of the year, and from every country in the world. But because she especially loved roses, she had gathered many different kinds of them, from the wild hedgerose whose green leaves were fragrant with the odor of apples, to Provence's most beautiful rose. They climbed the palace walls, twined around columns and window frames, into the halls and along the ceilings in all the rooms. And the roses differed in fragrance and in form and in color.

But sorrow and sadness dwelt within the palace. The queen was upon a bed of sickness, and the doctors told her she must die.

"There is, however, one remedy for her," said the wisest among them. "Bring her the world's most beautiful rose, that which is the expression of the highest and the purest love. If she sees that rose before her eyelids close in death, she shall not die."

The young and the old came from far and near with the most beautiful roses which grew in every garden, but none of these was the right one. The flower must be plucked from the garden of love. But what rose growing in that garden was the expression of the highest and the purest love?

The poets sang about the world's most beautiful rose, each one naming his own. And the message went out through all the land to every heart that beat in love, to people of every condition and of every age.

"No one has yet named the flower," said the wise man. "No one has pointed to the place where it burst forth into its glory. It is not the rose from Romeo's or Juliet's caskets, or from Valborg's grave, though their fragrance will ever remain in legend and in song; it is not the rose which springs from Winkelried's bloody lances, or from the blood which wells forth from the dying hero's bosom, though no death is sweeter and no rose is more deeply red than the blood which then flows. Neither is it that marvelous flower for whose care a man gives his life through the years of long and sleepless nights in his lone study, the magic rose of science."

"I know where it blooms," said a happy mother who came to the queen's couch with a babe in her arms. "I know where the world's most beautiful flo found, the rose which is the expression of the and the purest love. It blooms on the blushing of my sweet child when he, strengthened by opens his eyes and smiles at me in the fulness love."

"That is a beautiful rose, but a more beautif can be found," said the wise man.

"Yes, far more beautiful," said one of the w "I have seen it. A more exalted, holy rose never bl but it was pale like the petals of a tearose. I saw the queen's cheeks. She had laid aside her royal and herself walked through the long, sorrow-fille with her sick child, cried over it, kissed it, and a prayer to God for it, like a mother prays in th of anxiety."

"Holy and marvelous in its power is the r sorrow, but it is not the right one."

"No," said the pious old bishop, "I saw the most beautiful rose at the Lord's Table. I saw i like the countenance of an angel. The young girl to the altar of the Lord, renewing their baptisma nant, and roses blushed and roses faded on their A young girl stood there, looking with her purity and love up to God. That was the expres the purest and the highest love."

"Blessed be it!" said the wise man. "But n you has named the world's most beautiful rose."

Then a child entered the room, the queen' little son. Tears were in his eyes and on his He carried a large open book, bound in velvet, an great silver clasps.

"Mother," said the child, "O listen to what read!" And the child sat down by the bed an from the book about Him who gave Himself in on the cross to save mankind, even the unborn g tions. "Greater love hath no man."

A rosy hue came to the cheeks of the quee her eyes became large and clear; for she saw fr pages of the book rising the world's most be rose, which sprang from the blood of Christ cross.

"I see it!" she cried. "He who sees that ros never die—the world's most beautiful rose!"

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Silhouette by Harmon

ISTMAS ADORATION

Thou Who Wert a Little Child

The Editor

HOU who wert a little Child, our Christmas Gift: Grant us now a joyous and hopeful Christmas fes- We take our places beside Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, too. For is there not room for all orld at Thy babyhood's resting place?

there in the world are hatred and fear, trouble nxiety, sorrow and grief and pain. Men war with nother and kill one another. Men sin against God gainst one another. Evil is enthroned, wrong is ipped. That which is clean and good and noble wn down and cast out. Out there in the darkness walk with eyes downcast. They do not see Thy n the East, telling that a Savior-King has been they do not see the glow of an angelic choir, nor ey hear its song of glory. The angel-preacher's ge of "Peace . . . good will" is carried away on llen wind of unbelief. In the world outside it is —as dark as though Thou hadst not come, hadst been a little child, hadst never lived and taught, nished and encouraged, suffered and died and as dark as though Thou wert not living and ng; as dark as though the world had no Redeemer. here is light and warmth; here is a place of eness, and love, and hope, and expectation. There manger, Thou dost lie, Thou who wert a little A little Baby, Thou; just a little Man-Child. Thou weep, little Baby? Art Thou hungry, little Infant? Dost Thou sleep and wake, smile and cry? Art Thou like all the little man-children ever born? How then can there be this light and warmth? How can we sing, "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight"? Tell us, Thou who wert a little Child—how can all this be?

Yet Thou needst not tell us, for we know the story well. We learned it when we too were little children. Now we love to teach it to our children, perhaps to our grandchildren too. It is the story of a love surpassing the human, a love wholly divine. There is power too, almighty power. For we know that Thou, Infant in a manger, art very God. We call Thee Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. The humility of a stable and a manger, the seeming helplessness of a new-born Babe, we know that they are but the incarnation of One who, though He was God, emptied Himself, took on Him the form of a servant, the likeness of men, that His obedience unto death might win for us a crown of life.

Thou who wert a little Child: On this the night of Thy birth, we adore Thee and praise Thee for salvation, life, and hope. We pray Thee, let the door to Thy Presence be opened wide, let the Light of Thy love shine into the dark world. Here there is room for all; let Thy Spirit lead here many, that Thy house—even the humble house of Thy birth—may be full. Amen.

"ON EARTH, PEACE"

GERTRUDE E. WARTCHOW

"And on earth, peace." The angels sang
When Christ was born, long years ago,
Our world today is full of strife
And greed and hatred, pain and woe;
On ev'ry side we hear men ask:—
"Where is the peace He should bestow?"

The world in which the Christ was born
Was just as evil as our own,
With sickness, sorrow, want, and fear;
And cruel oppressors on the throne.
'Twas only a small group of men
To whom the peace of God was known.

If we would find this peace of heart,
We, like the shepherds, must believe
The angel's message, and make haste
To find the Christ Child, and receive
Him as our Savior and our King;
Then will our hearts no longer grieve.

As those Wise Men who came from far
To bring their gifts, and to adore,
So we must bring our prayers and gold
To Him who knocks at our heart's door;
And we must show "good will" to men;
Then we'll have peace forevermore.

HIS FATHER DAVID'S CROWN

CARRIE BUE MOEN

A brooding silence hung about the hills,
An awesome, all-obscuring darkness reigned
Above the land, where David in the past,
For brave, young deeds his royal scepter gained.

Among the hills good shepherds, as of old,
Were watching tenderly their flocks by night,
When, from on high, a sudden glory shone
And gloom and shadows fled before the light.

Far to the East a lustrous star appeared
To guide the Wise Men on their sacred quest
To where the longed-for royal child reposed
In utter poverty, yet heaven-blest.

Beneath the star the lowly and the great
Knelt at His shrine in humble worship down.
Shepherd-to-be of wayward human flocks
He did not seek His father David's crown.

FOR CHRIST WAS THERE

MARJORIE NORBY

I went to Bethlehem,
And saw the darkened streets
Lit by a heavenly light and radiant glory,
For Christ was there!

I went to Nazareth,
Where in a humble home
I saw true family love and joy and peace,
For Christ was there!

In Bethany, I saw
Another Christian home.
But more—I saw my one great need,
For Christ was there!

And, as I journeyed
On the wild wind-tossed sea,
My fears were calmed with "Peace be still!"
For Christ was there!

In dark Gethsemane
I slept, but later wept,
Because I did not watch and pray
While Christ was there!

And while I journeyed
To the hill of Golgotha,
My load of sin was heavy
'Ere I knew Christ was there!

But at the cross
I humbly knelt and prayed,
"Forgive me, Lord. I need Thee, Lord."
For Christ was there!

And now, I journey on:
A light within a darkened world,
A humble sinner with a risen hope.
For Christ is here!

stmas Poetry

NATIVITY

THEODINE BRANDT

wings of faith our searching souls take flight
where the shepherds saw bright beams of light.
hrough the night they followed its clear ray
hat small shelter where the Christ Child lay.
le voices broke the silence of the night
Star reflected promise in its light.
n through the ages we still hear a voice,
ry to God!" Let all the earth rejoice!"
star still shines, but in its beams we see
oss that points His way to Calvary.

SONG OF THE BELLS

E. T. HOMME

When Rome enforced her tax decree
On Bethlehem, on Bethlehem,
By legions marching from the sea
On Bethlehem, on Bethlehem,

Bright in the east a star shone down
On Bethlehem, on Bethlehem,
To light the way to David's town:
To Bethlehem, to Bethlehem,

And glory from on high shone round
Near Bethlehem, near Bethlehem,
Where watching shepherds Jesus found
In Bethlehem, in Bethlehem:

The Lord, whose earthly way must lie
From Bethlehem, from Bethlehem,
Toward a cross where He would die,
O Bethlehem, O Bethlehem.

He gave His life, the world to save,
To Bethlehem, to Bethlehem;
Not as the world can give, He gave
O Bethlehem, O Bethlehem,

And chimes that mark His holy birth
In Bethlehem, in Bethlehem,
Bring tidings of great joy to earth
From Bethlehem, from Bethlehem.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR PEACE

DIDRICK J. ORFIELD

O God of Love, we thank you
For every blessed day;
But most of all for Christmas—
Beloved in every way!

Our joy would be still greater
If war on earth would cease—
If we could live together
In harmony and peace.

Dispel the clouds of anger,
Suspicion, fear, and hate;
And let the sun of friendship
Illumine every state!

Remove the grief of battle—
The misery of war—
So we may live together
In peace forevermore!

FOLLOW THE STAR THIS CHRISTMAS EVE

GERTRUDE HANSON

Long, long have we known that the Christmas Star
Can lead to the Child in His manger bed;
But still we go fumbling on dim-lit paths,
And few are the souls we have Star-ward led.

Long, long have we known why the Wise Men's quest
Was blessed: they straightway followed the Sign;
But haltingly have we sought the Babe,
Heedless—indifferent to things divine.

Long, long have we strayed from the shepherd clan
That listened in awe to the angel choir;
But we remain deaf to the Heaven-sent host,
To the things of God we do not aspire.

Now, now, my brothers, the time grows short.
O follow the Star this Holy Eve,
Let ears be attuned to the angel-song,
Let our feet hasten, our hearts believe.

A Letter From Austria

Occasionally one who has sent a gift of clothing to Europe has the great joy of receiving word as to how the gift is being used. Mr. O. K. Storre, a farmer living near Joice, Iowa, member of the Board of Trustees of the ELC, had definite proof recently of how effective the program of Lutheran World Relief is in its service to refugees. Last fall, as a part of the clothing drive conducted by Concordia Lutheran Church of Joice, Mr. Storre enclosed a note in one of the items of clothing, a winter overcoat, which said, "I hope this coat warms your heart as much as it warms mine to give it."

Now a response has come back from Mr. Otto Kirnbauer of Austria, which reads as follows:

"Dear Mr. Storre:

"You have a right to learn whose heart is being warmed by your gift. These lines are written by the man who received your coat. I have gotten the coat from the Austrian Protestant Relief Organization, and it is to warm me this winter and the winters to come, if I shall live through them. I can use this body-and-soul-warming coat extremely well. Winters here are long and cold. Schladming is situated right in the Alps between Mt. Dachstein and the range of the Niedere Tauern, its altitude being 2,250 feet. The countryside is beautiful; young people like it especially well in winter

The church at Schladming

The city of Schladming

for winter sports, that is in this case, skiing. An man like myself does not enjoy those pleas winter any more; he rather feels its hardships. Y helped to ease those hardships. Let me thank y so much for it.

"The enclosed picture may give you an idea place where your coat landed. Maybe you'll f seeing the place yourself and checking how we coat suits me. You would not be the first citizen USA who comes to Schladming. Several Am from the states New York, Idaho, and even Ca have visited Schladming. My English was suffic understand the greetings you sent to the unknow son who would get your coat. It does not, h suffice for writing a letter of thanks. Therefore, in German and have my daughter translate it. S been a Fulbright student during the academ 1951-52 and studied at a college in Troy, New She, too, has received love and kindness 'over

"Best greetings.

"Yours truly,

"Otto Kirnbaue

Bethlehem

Theodine Brandt

A small town lies near a sheltering hill,
The daylight fades and the night is still.
A brilliant star in a deep blue sky
Beams through branches, bare and high,
Pointing the place where a small child la
Peacefully sleeping on fragrant hay.
For all who hold a sacred dream
His star still lends its guiding beam.

me Finding Different

the boundaries of the United States are many Home agencies designed to give homes to chil- ho through no fault of their own need a new But the Lutheran Home Finding Society of Illi- in many ways unique.

example, it is quite remarkable that, nearly a before Theodore Roosevelt called the first White Conference together, there should be a group le in Chicago who had foresight and concern for the very thing discussed at this conference. at this first White House Conference that it was ed that children should not be "deprived of fe except for compelling reasons."

this very interesting story unfolded is best told uotation from the Society's history:

bout the turn of the century, Dr. John R. Birke- nd the Rev. August Schlecte of the Missouri were doing City Missionary work in and about . Their duties brought them in daily contact e poor, the sick, and the needy. From time to ey were called to the juvenile court to help with cing of children with Lutheran parentage or und.

lities for the care of Lutheran children at that ere very inadequate. The burden of providing

Photo by John W. Gable

ng home of the Lutheran Home Finding Society. At the right of picture is Miss Geraldine Lewis, Foster Home nt supervisor. Next to her are two little Indian girls who ding at the Dobner home, then Mrs. Dobner, a Scandi- oarding girl, and Mr. Dobner. The two sons of the are seated on the floor.

Photo by John W. Gable

The Dedicatory Service. Left to right are: the Rev. James H. Fresh, the adoptive couple with their four-month old baby, Miss Joan Holtan, who will do the service calls, and Mrs. Marion Fletcher, who did the home story.

shelter, food, clothing, medical and dental care, as well as education and spiritual help weighed heavily on the hearts of these men. To the extent of their ability they accepted a child from time to time when they knew of families who could provide the right kind of home. It was very apparent, however, that this rather sporadic help did not solve the problem.

"In July, 1905, Dr. Birkelund and the Rev. Schlecte called an informal meeting of pastors to discuss the question of providing some organization for these children committed to the Court, as well as other children who might need help. Several other meetings were called and, finally, sentiment crystallized into the organizing of the Lutheran Home Finding Society of Illinois. . . .

"The organizational meeting was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church . . . , at which time there were present seven Norwegian Synod pastors, 23 lay persons, and the Rev. Schlecte of the Missouri Synod. . . .

"To begin with the organization was to operate as a branch of the Evangelical Lutheran Kinderfreund Society of Illinois. A constitution was adopted. . . . Dues were 10c per annum. The Society, however, soon withdrew its affiliation with the Kinderfreund, at the same time adopting a new constitution. Dues were now $1.00 per year.

"A Receiving Home to care for these children was needed. A piece of ground was given the Agency, and later one cottage was purchased; and still later, two more. In 1927 a fireproof building replaced the cottages."

By October, 1907, there were four children, two boys and two girls. Mrs. Gunhild Hanson was the first matron; Miss Clara Hoffors, the first case worker. Sister Caroline Williams was the representative of the organization at the Juvenile Court.

The care given these children by Sister Caroline Williams was unique. In the *Home Finding News* for April, 1928, Sister Caroline writes: "Henry was the name of a little boy whose mother had very little time for him. She had a new husband and other children. The husband did not want Henry. He was only six years old, with big blue eyes that seemed to plead for a little bit of love. The officer of the juvenile court asked us if we were willing to care for him in a foster home providing that the county would pay his board. . . .

"We accepted him. He was placed with a family in the country. His craving for love was satisfied. He is now a big boy, growing and learning every day. His mother seems to have forgotten him; we have not heard from her since the day that we accepted him in court."

Lutherans in Chicago tell many stories of the love Sister Caroline showed needy children.

To begin with, this Society was a completely new undertaking; the organization had no means; interested people were few in number. But, the hearts of these people were aflame with the spirit of Christ. When money was needed, money was given. Men, women, and youth of the congregations stood behind the project.

Today the Society is affiliated with The Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Illinois Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America, and the Illinois District of the American Lutheran Church.

Now the Home Finding Society is essentially a Preplacement Center where infinite care is taken in studying the child as well as the foster home in order that the best possible placement can be made. After case workers and supervisors have studied both the child and the adoptive home, with proper medical, dental, and psychiatric care given; and parents have decided to adopt a child, a dedicatory service is held.

Before this is done, however, the adoptive parents have had time to think and pray about this important step in their lives. It is not a hurried process; it is a slow, delicate process involving thankfulness for the privilege of adoption.

The Dedicatory Service for Adoption is as follows:

INVOCATION

Lord's Prayer (Pray together)

Apostles' Creed (Confess together)

LITANY (Responsively)

Create in me, O God, a clean heart;

AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME.

Cast me not away from Thy presence;

AND TAKE NOT THY HOLY SPIRIT FROM ME.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;

AND UPHOLD ME WITH THY FREE SP

DEDICATORY QUESTIONS

(1) Do you as adoptive parents promise to rais child in the Christian Faith?

Answer—Yes, by the help of God.

(2) Do you promise to bring this child up i knowledge that he is adopted?

Answer—We do.

(3) Do you promise to give him the love anc required in a well-rounded spiritual, physica emotional life?

Answer—We do.

(4) Is it your sincere promise to accept this ch your child?

Answer—It is.

(5) Will you love, nourish, and cherish him a would your own?

Answer—We will.

PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD TO ADOPTIVE COUPLE

As stewards in the Kingdom of God you reco that you are also stewards of the complete life o child—therefore, in faith and trust we place this in your loving care.

BENEDICTION

And now may the peace of God which passe understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Jesus. . . . Amen.

Plans for the future for Lutheran Home Findin ciety include an increased professional staff; a b office in Springfield, Ill.; possibly arrangements for Care Homes; arrangements for a Resident Cente teen-agers on the Cottage Plan; a continued re to the Society by Lutheran Charities of Chicago.

This organization does not want for personne cause it has a supplemental scholarship plan fo training for its workers. Under the direction o R. A. Gustafson, the constant planning for the f is only one indication of the spirit and foresight c Society.

Sister Caroline, at 83, says, "They do good there!"

ound the Amen"

Raymond M. Olson

al corner of the year is just beyond the festival stmas. This is a good place to turn and look the miracles of God's grace which mark the It is a good spot to use for a thankful examina- all God has done in revealing Himself and His It recognizes Christmas as one of the great ks of God's mercy.

becomes a most important time and place to together our resources for praising God and the attention of a preoccupied world to His on. No one of us ought to look at these miracles s goodness without seeking to share their mean- h other men. We should be ready to join the riter in saying:

Let the Amen
Sound from His people again.
Gladly for aye we adore Him!

e are many ways to "sound the Amen." We can o God directly, in prayer and praise. We can lish it in the way we use our life, in the way we means.

an make the "Amen" a ringing witness to other that we do adore Christ and believe in Him, e do recognize the great gifts which come from

is an invitation to "sound the Amen" in the t and spirit of your gifts and offerings for the f your Church. Remember that these gifts can your joy and faith and thankfulness to God. an tell of something sure and sustaining, which hrist. There are folks who give reluctantly, thin- ut the testimony of their gift. Make your gifts more than this. Give them strength and vitality. s month of December closes, make your "con- ns" a little larger. Add to them as substantially ible, so as to put an exclamation point into your fferings. Let even your income tax report give f the "Amen" in your giving. Don't be satisfied pledge you may have made if you are at all do more than you have pledged. Give your dship a positive and healthy ring.

nd the Amen" in the amount and spirit of the d offerings which come from your congregation support of the program of the ELC as seen in dget and Lutheran World Action. They are -made" for a dramatic demonstration of our desire laim the Lord Jesus Christ to our world. Many gations are in a position to do much more than nount stated in the "apportionment." The real ring of the "Amen," the resounding fact of love and faith will be much better shown by emptying the treasuries and pouring out our hearts to give glory to this Christ, our Lord!

Let there be no tone of defeat or discouragement for us as we take this long look at the mercies of God, in Christ. We are committed to this faith. We will not be hesitant in announcing it. We must not be hesitant in underwriting it.

The Lesson of the Snowflake

Myra Johannesen

Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? (Job 38:22).

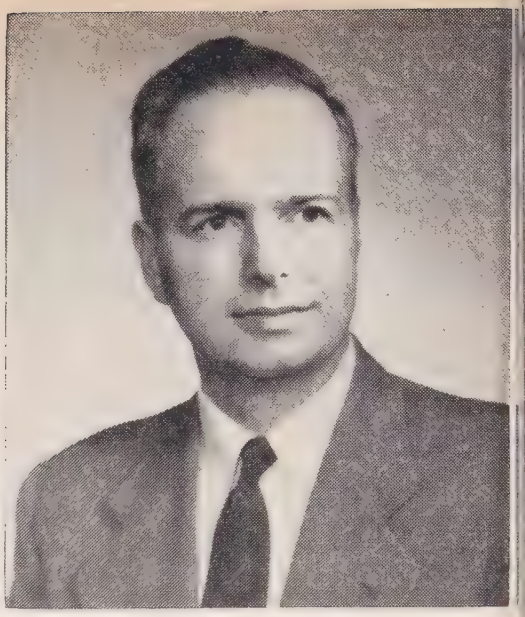
Have you ever wondered how snow was formed? Snow is water vapor, which at a certain low temperature crystallizes into geometric forms. When the temperature of the air is slightly above freezing, snowflakes assume starry, delicate, lacy designs. In one kind, called the tabular, it is believed there are rarely two alike.

If you stand outside on a still, pleasant day when the snowflakes are falling, you will be fascinated by their designs, and especially by their variety of forms. It is as if the heavens were tossing some of their starry jewels down for us to share. Yet, when we try to take these crystals in our hands, they melt in an instant, and we stand in awe of the vanished beauty.

These beautiful designs of God can be harmful, as well as beneficial and life-giving to the land. The wrath of God can take these intricate snowflakes and use them to destroy and bring fear to the earth.

A snowflake may be compared to the life of man. According to God's span of time, we are on earth for but a moment. Each one of us is in some way different from the other, but fashioned according to His image and possessing capabilities of working in the building of His Kingdom. If we allow Him to use us in the building of His Kingdom, He will not give us over to the works of the devil, who is only destructive and can neither give benefit nor life to thirsting lands. Yes, God can use this being of ours which He has formed so miraculously and turn it from its evil desires to the desires of the heart of God, if we obey Him.

LBI Has New President



Pastor Opsal

Chaplain Bernt C. Opsal of the U. S. Navy has accepted the call to become the next president of the Lutheran Bible Institute, according to announcement made recently by Dr. George Aus, chairman of the LBI Board of Trustees. Chaplain Opsal will succeed Dr. Oscar C. Hanson, who has accepted the call to full-time preaching Evangelism in The Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Chaplain Opsal served in the U. S. Navy during the recent Korean conflict and also in the Pacific area during World War II. In addition to his chaplaincy duties, he has served as Information and Education Officer, Civil Readjustment Officer, Librarian, and Athletic Officer.

Between his two terms of service in the Navy, Chaplain Opsal served as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York. During his ministry there the congregation grew from a very small group to a large congregation numbering about 1,000 members. He was instrumental also in the inauguration of "The Lutheran Gospel Hour," a weekly radio broadcast in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area.

Chaplain Opsal is a graduate of Upsala College, West Orange, New Jersey, and of Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. His graduate work includes special study in school administration at New York University and Biblical Seminary in New York. While at Orange High School and Upsala College, Chaplain Opsal was an outstanding athlete. During his theological training he served as student assistant for one year in St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Austin, Minnesota. He also served as president of the student body during his senior year at Luther Seminary.

During his ministry in New York, Chaplain Opsal served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the New York extension of the Lutheran Bible Institute and was active in the formation of the branch school in New York. In 1951 he was extended a call by the LBI Board to join the faculty but declined because of his commitment to the chaplaincy.

He has served on the Board of Directors of the Bethesda Mission, and of the Norwegian Hospital in Brooklyn, New York; as director of the Young People's High School Bible Camp program of The Evangelical Lutheran Church; as Atlantic Circuit director of the United Christian Education Appeal; as director of Evangelism for the Atlantic Circuit of The Evang Lutheran Church; and as chaplain of a United Naval Reserve unit in Brooklyn.

Chaplain Opsal has been much in demand speaker for Bible camps and youth rallies and co tions in the various Lutheran church bodies.

Chaplain and Mrs. Opsal and their two chi Janet and Peter, will live in Minneapolis.

Book Mission Brevities

M. O. Sur

Another year of Book Mission service is drawi its close. With grateful hearts we review the m that have passed. More tracts and booklets have ordered than in the corresponding period of any vious year. More contributions have been received we are concerned with what the rest of the year bring. Many thousands of dollars must flow intc treasury before the close of the fiscal year, Januar 1954.

A few weeks ago the annual appeal for funds sent to pastors of The Evangelical Lutheran Ch Since the Book Mission is owned and operated by Church, this seems to be the logical approach t problem of financial support. This is the only s tation for funds made each year, so we hope tha response will be general and generous. We never bills to any church, society, or individual affiliated our ELC, though such are frequently requested. T so would be contrary to our policy of providing ma free of charge for prayerful distribution. Rarely d send bills to anyone. The National Lutheran Cou

(Continued on pag

y Kingdom Come

F. W. Thomsen

SKETCHES FROM A SUMMER IN COLOMBIA
(Seventh in a Series)

Will Be Done

ve o'clock in the morning I was awakened by the watchman blowing a shrill whistle as he made unds in the neighborhood. At breakfast Arnfeld me that this was the watchman's way of informing ective robbers of his whereabouts! Twice during sence of the Morcks, the wall of the mission house een scaled by a thief.

ring the morning Arnfeld and I made plans for llustrated folder that I was to prepare for the n board. The folder was to describe the Colom- mission work of the ELC and UELC. The central ht, we decided, was to be that of going forward h—persecution must not stop the work in Colom-

* * *

t I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever listed. Likewise shall also the Son of Man suffer of

en the disciples understood that he spake unto of John the Baptist.

thought came to me that John's death had perhaps nplished more than a prolonged ministry. Jesus not lament the fact—as we would—that John had been thrown into prison and is in danger of his life, nor does Jesus in any way intercede for John to the extent that it is recorded. There is no time to dwell on his death, its tragedy and shame; but, rather, the purpose of his death, as an instrument of God to make straight the way and to restore truth, is the important consideration. Jesus sees that He, too, must travel the same road. No wonder that in His wisdom, reaching beyond mortal limits, He does not cry over John's death. Christ, too, must die, but He realizes that His purpose is to live in obedience to the will of God. Already in His mind He is formulating the prayer, "Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

At the supper table someone said, "Wasn't it a shame that Peter Marshall had to die so young? Had he lived longer, he could have preached to many more." But he *is* preaching to many. If he hadn't died, I might never have heard his sermons. His very zest for living for the Lord, the force that hastened his death, also made him known. Let us not be so concerned with death; let us learn to live in obedience—then His light can shine through us.

Men of faith have not checked their forward steps simply because others did not move with them; they continued in faith, trusting in God and in those who had gone before.

ews From Foreign Fields

R. A. Syrdal

nch Camerouns

Rev. Selmer Myklejord has just written from his on station at Betare-Oya in the French Camerouns, Africa. They have recently returned there from ugh in the United States and report that they have dy taken up the work and have been busy in trying ach the people in their area. He writes as follows: lave been visiting some of the villages already, the roads are badly washed out from the heavy . We are hoping and praying that we may travel extensively after Christmas. We miss Paul Dar- l very much. He understood the work so well He continually impressed upon the native church they must assume more and more responsibility he propagation of the Gospel.

Ve are now entering the dry season, so it is getting le hotter during the day. Suppose it is getting cold there in Minneapolis."

He also gives news that they have a Danish doctor at the government hospital so they have help in the area in case of need for medical care. Another item of news was that Reuben Johnson is at a new mission station, building temporary buildings so that the family can move up by the end of November. This station is at the village of Djong, northwest of Meiganga, and means an extension of our work up towards an area which is entirely unevangelized and which lies close to an area that is almost unexplored. We are happy for the extension of our work on this mission field.

South Africa

We have the following account of the graduation services of our Lutheran Theological Seminary in South Africa, sent by the Rev. J. E. Farup, who is our representative on the teaching staff of this Union Lutheran Seminary. It is a rather unique institution in that it

(Continued on page 1190)

The Christmas Glow

Harold B. Kildahl

THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
December 27, 1953
Text: Luke 2:25-32

Phew—I'm glad that's over!"

Words like those probably will be spoken by a lot of folks when Christmas has come and gone. Department store clerks whose lives have been harried by late shoppers; housewives who have carried the larger share of Christmas planning; post office employees who have been struggling to "get on top of" a mountain of mail—those and probably many others will feel like breathing a sigh of relief when December 26 has come. It may be, too, that all of us will share a little of that sense of relief when the last greeting card has been signed, addressed, and mailed. And it's sad, isn't it?

It's sad because the glow of Christmas ought to linger, and the tingle of its real significance ought to really "catch hold" of the mind, the heart, and the soul. That's what the text would accomplish as it reaches out from the Word to speak of spiritual satisfactions and a contented heart. Joe Bonavita was one who experienced the glow of Christmas, whose whole soul and life were captured by the real significance of Christmas.

Do you remember him? He's the Italian restaurant owner who went to the Bowery one night at Christmas time to give away $5,800 and who returned a week later to add another $1,800, just to help his unfortunate "brothers." It all came about, the story of Joe, because he loved God and was thankful to God for the gift of Jesus Christ. One day he prayed: "If a man is angry, he can't talk to you, God; so please take my anger away. You know how to forgive—teach me. And teach others to believe in you so's they can believe in one another—and to love you, so's they can love one another—teach them your words with the miracles in them, so's it can be Christmas every day."

It ought to be, don't you think? For Christians, just as with Simeon, just as with Joe, there ought to be a continuous buoyancy of the soul in the realization that "God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son." It ought to be in your soul, too, the lingering glow of Christmas. The satisfaction of your soul in the possession of God's Greatest Gift, and the contentment of your heart in the certain knowledge that "a Savior has been born" ought to be real and contagious as you help to "give wings" to the Gospel of our Lord in your life and relations with your fellow men.

Simeon, pious man of old, by the grace of God can teach you and me to be satisfied in Christ and to own contented hearts. Amen.

A Striking Comparison

Philip S. Dy

In his annual report to the Board of Home Miss Dr. Mars Dale, president of the Canada District, made a striking comparison. He pointed out that three largest congregations of The Evangelical Luth Church here in the States have a combined member greater than the total membership in all the congr tions of the ELC in Canada. In fact, the three con gations had 10 more confirmed members than the e Canada District.

Then he points out what those three congregat would be doing if they were to do what the peopl Canada are making possible throughout the district the Church.

These congregations would be called upon to sup 66 pastors.

Through the years they would maintain 66 parson built by them in the past.

They would maintain 189 churches, also built by t in the past.

They would support seven parish workers, all of t from the congregations.

They would maintain two schools at a cost of $ 513.47 in 1952 for both capital investment and opera expenses.

They would supply homes for eight professors.

They would maintain two sunset homes built by t at a cost of $150,000 and $200,000 respectively.

They would give $58,229 to benevolences of Church.

They would send 30 of their young men to the Se nary to prepare for the Christian ministry.

The above comparison may to some seem meani less. Many factors must surely be taken into consid tion. The plain fact remains, however, that the comp son proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that there virtually no limit to the program of Christian ser that the Church could give to our nation and to world if we as a people awakened to our full spirit potential in stewardship. This can be said because a one who is familiar with the situation in Canada kn that Canadian stewardship has not reached its full tential.

The comparison is strengthened when we know t no congregations in Canada are receiving any Ho Mission aid, excepting only those that have been est lished the last year.

editations for the Family Altar

Joel Njus

TOWARD THE SUNDAY AFTER NEW YEAR

ison: Acts 4:23-31

The Gospel: Matt. 2:13-18

Monday, December 28

GOD'S FREE OFFER

Read Isaiah 55:1-13

every one who thirsts, come to the and he who has no money, come, d eat! Come, buy wine and milk t money and without price.

potential market for any product ndent upon two factors: the con- this product can make to the and happiness of man, and the If a store were to run a post- nas sale advertising its goods to be vith no down payment and no y payments of any kind, it would amped with customers and its cleaned in a matter of hours. For ould resist such an offer?

makes that kind of offer every the year. He offers all the riches ist free of charge to all who come. rgiveness of sins, life, and salvation utright gift. He simply says, "Come and I will satisfy all your needs." an resist such an offer?

r God, we thank Thee for Thy free f mercy to all. May we be as ready ive as Thou art to give. Amen.

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Tuesday, December 29

BLESSED MEMORIES

Read Proverbs 10:1-32

The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

Psychologists tell us that we tend to forget unpleasant experiences and remember pleasant ones. The Word of God tells us that the memory of the righteous remains as a blessing in the world, while the name of the wicked will rot. The life of a child of God lives on in the hearts and minds of the people long after that person is dead. How we cherish the memories of the saints, how such memories inspire us in our daily living!

What kind of a memory will you leave behind for your family, congregation, and community? So live that when your obituary is read, these words can honestly be spoken: "Blessed be his memory among us." So live that when you are dead and gone, your life will continue to witness for Jesus in the minds and hearts of those yet alive. Then your memory will be a blessing for others.

Dear God, bless upon our hearts the memory of departed saints. Amen.

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Wednesday, December 30

GROWTH BY ASSOCIATION

Read Proverbs 13:1-25

He who walks with wise men becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

We have heard recently a great deal of talk about "guilt by association." There are those who place a strong emphasis upon a person's associates in the evaluation of his reliability, and there are others who say this has nothing to do with personal integrity. Quite apart from the political and legal aspects of this current debate, let us note what God's Word has to say about the role of companions in our lives. The companion of fools will suffer harm. A poor diet makes a weak body, and one who shares the fare of the fools will suffer mental and spiritual malnutrition. He who walks with the wise becomes wise. Every minute we live, we grow. And we grow like those in whose company we walk. How imporant that your companions be Christians. How important that your companion be Christ!

Dear God, we thank Thee for the blessing of Christian friends. Amen.

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Thursday, December 31

MEDITATION FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

Read Psalm 90:1-17

teach us to number our days that ay get a heart of wisdom.

e year 1953 is rapidly fading into y. With every tick of the clock it quickly towards the threshold that s the present from the past. No have we become accustomed to g "1953," than that figure is out- . The years flow onward as a river arry our lives with them. How short eriod we spend in the river of time. day we live brings us closer to our of our death. Every second we ne step closer to eternity. The rec- on of the shortness of our life here d move us to prepare for the life to It is a call to seek the Lord while ay be found, and to work while it is or the night cometh soon. The old s dying, and we are dying with it. d is the man who has made the al God his dwelling place.

Eternal and Everlasting God, Thou ur hope in life, and death, and for ernity to come. Amen.

Friday, January 1

A FUTURE AND A HOPE

Read Jeremiah 29:10-14

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

How difficult for us to lay plans for the future! For the future is unknown, and often tomorrow brings the unexpected. But for the children of God, there is always a future and a hope. God has plans for us, plans for our welfare and not for our hurt. Our journey through life is like a wonderful excursion, where each day we discover and experience some new part of that plan. Each day of the future will reveal to us more of God's goodness and mercy, more of God's love and care, more of God's grace and blessing. Hence all fear of the future! Our future is in the hands of God. The best is yet to come. This knowledge gives zest to living. And when this life is over, God will take us home to heaven, saying, "My child, my plans for you extend into eternity. The best is yet to come."

Dear God, we thank Thee for Thy plans which give us a future and a hope. Amen.

Saturday, January 2

REJOICE IN THE LORD

Read Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

No doubt you have already wished many a "Happy New Year," and have yourself been greeted with these words. But Paul's "Rejoice in the Lord" is more than a greeting or a wish. It is an exhortation. It is telling us to do something. Paul knew of the joy to be found in Christ. He knew also the danger of letting small vexations and trials rob us of the joy that should be ours all the time as children of God. It would be a peculiar bridegroom who let his wedding day be spoiled by a broken shoestring. After all, who would have time to be vexed with such a minor event on a day of great joy? The gloomy Christian is unnatural. How can one go around with a long face when he knows God loves him? And that Jesus is coming soon? You will have a happy new year if you daily recall God's grace to you in Christ Jesus and rejoice in the Lord. In the name of Him, then, who makes it possible: Happy New Year.

Here and There on the Christian Front

Edited by Raymond M. C

1954 PROTESTANT RALLY PLANNED FOR EAST ZONE

When East German Minister of Church Affairs Otto Nuschke was approached to inform him that the East German committee of the German Protestant laymen's movement had voted to hold the 1954 Church Day rally in the Soviet Zone, he promised to help in the arrangements. So reports Dr. Reinold von Thadden, president of the movement, who said the rally was scheduled for Leipzig, Saxony, next June 1-4. The selection of site was made after the decision to hold the rally in the East Zone if at all possible.

Dr. von Thadden said the decision was the answer to the strong East German participation in the 1953 rally which brought 15,000 East Germans out of a total of 250,000 to Hamburg. He added, "East and West German unity in faith must not only be proclaimed but lived up to."

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS UPHELD BY COURT

The claim of a Jehovah's Witness to a draft classification as a minister has been recognized by the U. S. Supreme Court, although he had no formal theological training and was not ordained. George Lewis Dickinson of Coahugua, California, had been sentenced to two years in prison for refusing to take the oath at an army induction center.

The Court's majority opinion, presented by Justice Tom C. Clark, said that "certainly, all members of a religious organization or sect are not entitled to exemption by reason of their membership, even though in their belief, each is a minister. On the other hand, a legitimate minister cannot be, for the purposes of the (Selective Service) Act, unfrocked simply because all members of his sect base an exemption claim on the dogma of his faith."

The ruling set forth in this case will apply to all religious groups in laying down the standards for determining whether a man is a legitimate minister. Justice Clark said, "These ser (preaching and teaching the prin of the religious group to which belongs) must be regularly perfor They must, as the statute reads, prise the registrant's vocation. Selective Service registrant bears burden of clearly establishing a to exemption."

CHURCH CONSULTANT WORKS WITH COURT

RNS Photo

In Brooklyn's Children's Court (N. Y.) the Church, the court, and the home are working to solve juvenile problems. Here Dr. Virginia H. Johnson, a psychiatric social worker, recently appointed first Protestant consultant at the court (right), discusses a youth problem with a mother and her daughter. A Protestant minister sits in on the discussion to offer additional aid if necessary. Funds are provided by the Brooklyn Council of Churchwomen through the Brooklyn Division of the Protestant Council of the City of New York.

PROTESTANTS HELPED IN ITALY

Five Pentecostal ministers in Italy been sentenced by a magistrate's c near Naples on the charge of viola the 1931 Fascist laws. These laws quired prior authorization by p of all gatherings to which the pu has access, and these ministers accused of holding "unauthori worship services in private ho Giacoma Rosapepe, Rome attorney, pealed the sentence to the provin Appeals Court where the Protest were upheld. Then the State Pros tor appealed to the Supreme Cour Italy, with Mr. Rosapepe again re senting the Pentecostal churchmen

The Supreme Court has now r

READY FOR CHRISTMAS TRIP

RNS Photo

Methodist Bishop William C. Martin of Dallas, Texas, president of the National Cou of Churches (second right), is shown conferring with the three Chiefs of Chaplains the U. S. Armed Forces in preparation for his visit to servicemen in Korea and Ja during the Christmas holidays. The chaplains are left to right: Maj. Gen. Ivan L. Benn of the Army; Maj. Gen. Charles I. Carpenter of the Air Force; and Rear Adm. Edw B. Harp, Jr., of the Navy.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BALLOON BARRAGE

RNS Photo

urbank, California, 1,000 helium-filled balloons were released by children and adults "Operation Sunday School Balloon Barrage," inviting the finders to attend Sunday ol. A message with a prayer that "you and everyone everywhere will attend Sunday ol somewhere," which had been signed by a prominent American, was attached to balloon. One six-foot balloon had a message signed by President Eisenhower. The age came as a climax to a six weeks' campaign which had increased Sunday school ndance by almost 400 per cent.

police decrees dating back to Fas- days which restrict freedom of ship were "automatically abro- d" by adoption of the new Con- ution in 1948 which contains re- ous freedom guarantees. Protestants taly see much help from the ruling, ch will prevent local police officials various parts of the country from ng the old regulations to prevent -Catholic religious gatherings.

RISTIANITY TO BE JGHT IN EGYPT

arses in Christianity will be intro- ed soon in the government-run ools of Egypt, which are strongly slem. This decision is the latest of eral announced by President Na- b's government, in moves to elimi- e religious discrimination. In the t only Islam has been taught in the ernment schools.

he new policy calls for all Chris- students to receive Christian in- ction during the same periods en Moslem pupils are studying their gion.

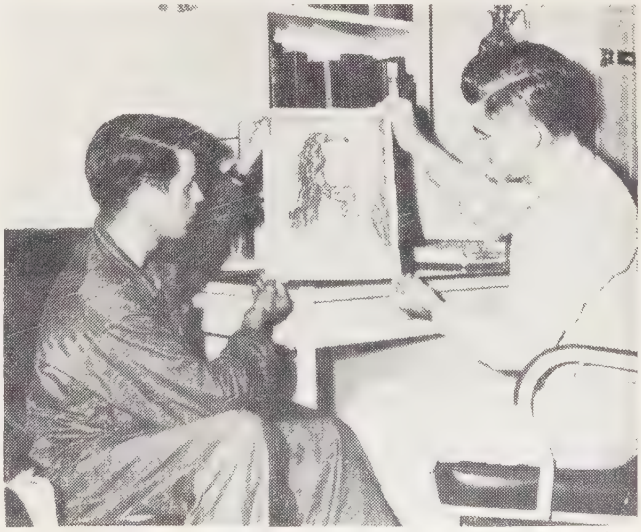
he Bible lessons and Christian cs will be taught by regular, gov- ment-paid instructors. Textbooks are be published by the government ss, with the curriculum and textual erials prepared by a committee of Coptic Orthodox and Evangelical churchmen.

Christian leaders in Egypt say their situation has improved steadily under the new regime. Obstacles to construction of churches have been dropped; the Moslem president has been readily accessible to clergymen, and the government has waived duties on church equipment which is imported.

WORTHY OF NOTE . . .

Archbishop Luis Martinez of Mexico City has been credited with settling a long-standing dispute between Mexican and Spanish bullfighters, with the result that now the best Spanish bullfighters come to Mexico and the best Mexican ones go to Spain. . . . The Missouri American Legion commandant's office has appealed for help to rebuild war-wrecked churches in West Germany as a part of a campaign to put the emphasis on Christian acts at Christmas time. Each Legion Post in the state has been asked to contribute to the Wooden Church Crusade, Inc., a non-denominational, non-profit group which is raising funds to build wooden churches in West Germany to cost $25,000 each. . . . An ancient scarab, apparently lost by the commander of the Philistines when he was defeated by King David at the battle of the Vale of Rephaim, has been found on the site of the Biblical battleground outside Jerusalem. Israeli scholars look upon it as the earliest relic ever discovered in that land.

POW'S CONDUCTED SERVICES



RNS Photo

American prisoners of war organized and conducted their own Christian worship services in North Korean camps, according to a report made by the Department of Defense. Repatriated POW's, returning to America, told of the services. In the photo, Corporal Herbert H. Romberger of Toledo, Ohio, one of the prisoners (left), shows Chaplain John W. Rabb the pencil drawing of the head of Christ which he made as an altar piece for the camp services. The men had nothing but a worn New Testament to guide them, but they made their own hymn books containing songs they wrote down from memory. In addition, a wooden cross was carved by some of the prisoners.

Schools and Colleges

Edited by the Department of Higher Education

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT LCBI

The Christmas Festival Concert at *Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute* was held on Sunday, December 13. Both choirs of the school participate in this festival which is observed annually. The choirs are under the direction of Mr. L. C. Alm and Miss Isabel Kaldor.

CAMPUS NEWS NOTES

Biographies of nineteen *Concordia College* seniors will appear in the 1953-1954 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

They are: John R. Anderson, Moorhead; Arlene Dippe, Grand Forks, N. D.; Clinton G. Erickson, Grygla, Minn.; Joanne Fagstad, Grand Forks, N. D.; Ronald Gandrud, Glenwood, Minn.; Mary Ellen George, Billings, Mont.; Clemence L. Gronfor, Frost, Minn.; Richard P. Hegrenes, Fargo, N. D.; Ralph H. Hoppe, Sun Prairie, Wis.; Robert E. Johnson, Great Falls, Mont.; Donald L. Kerlin, Dilworth, Minn.; Joan C. Knutson, Fertile, Minn.; Enid Larson, Fordville, N. D.; Carl E. L. Lucky, Stanwood, Wash.; Sylvia M. Moe, Moorhead, Minn.; Paul D. Mork, Clarkfield, Minn.; Marilyn E. Oien, Devils Lake, N. D.; Lyle A. Rich, Hannaford, N. D.; and W. Harvey Wilson, Battle Lake, Minn.

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The guest critics and directors of the annual *Luther College* Vocal Festival to be held January 25-26 have been announced by Prof. Weston H. Noble.

Sponsored by the Dorian Music Society, the festival will bring together more than 225 outstanding high school vocalists in the tri-state area.

Three recognized musicians from the United States Air Force, Washington, D.C., will audition all soloists and ensembles.

* * *

An all Grieg concert was given by the college band and assisting artists at *Pacific Lutheran College* on Sunday, November 22. The event commemorated the 110th anniversary of the birth of Edvard Grieg. Ronald Fuller, Tacoma freshman, played Grieg's well-known piano concerto, accompanied by the band under the direction of Dr. Robert Larson; Jeanne Frieske, Spokane junior, sang a group of soprano solos. The choir and chorus formed a 120-voice group to sing "Landsighting," accompanied by the band.

* * *

Students and friends of *St. Olaf College* were saddened by the passing of one of its senior students. Miss Joyce Buntrock of Columbia, S. D., was fatally injured in an automobile accident on Thanksgiving Day. Miss Buntrock was a homecoming queen attendant and was an outstanding student at St. Olaf. Memorial services were conducted on November 30 at the regular chapel service.

* * *

The Concordia Male Chorus at *Concordia* is the newest campus musical organization. It is under the direction of Robert Prescott, a senior music major from Moorhead, and consists of approximately 75 men. The chorus includes only men who are not singing in either of the a cappella choirs. Elwood Wiger, a senior from Twin Valley, Minn., was elected president of the chorus.

* * *

On December 3, a Tri-State Educational conference was held at *Luther College*. County and city superintendents from Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin schools within a 100-mile radius of the college were invited to attend.

The main speaker at the conference was Dr. James B. Edmundson, former dean of the School of Education, University of Michigan. He addressed the group on "The Strategy of Administration."

* * *

Over fifty PLC students attended the Northwest Region L. S. A. retreat at Lutherland, Washington, recently. Dr. Magnus Nodtvedt, Dr. Walter C. Schnackenberg and Miss Anne Knudson, members of the PLC faculty, took part in the retreat as speakers.

* * *

The "Augustana Mirror" newspaper at *Augustana College* has a new look this year. The paper changed from letter press to offset, a photographic process which permits the use of art work and photographs. Milton Mortensen, Gary, South Dakota, is editor.

* * *

At a business session during homecoming, the Luther College Alumni Association elected officers. The association elected the Rev. W. L. Carlson, Fairmont, Minn., president. The five vice-presidents named include the Rev. Obert Hoven, River Falls, Wis.; Mr. Rand Fisher, Granada, Minn.; The Rev. J. L. Ranum, West Salem, Wis.; Mr. E. Richard Urdahl, Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.; Ruth Lunde, Minneapolis, Minn. Miss Irene Langlie of the Luther College administrative staff was elected secretary-treasurer and Mrs. Paul Mickelson of Decorah, Iowa, recording secretary.

* * *

The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Antal Dorati presented its 27th annual St. Olaf concert Sunday, November 22, on campus.

A system of exchange concerts between the Minneapolis Symphony and the St. Olaf Choir was established in 1926. The St. Olaf Choir exchange concert with the Minneapolis Symphony will be March 21.

* * *

Dr. Otto A. Piper, professor of Old Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, was guest at *Luther Theological Seminary* in St. Paul recently. He lectured under the auspices of the Theological Society. Dr. Piper is a native of Thuringia, Germany, the region rich in Luther lore. While professor of systematic theology at Münster, a series of lectures by him on Church and State provoked the wrath of the Nazis, and he was dismissed from his position. After spending some time in England, he came to America as guest professor at Princeton, where he received appointment to his present position in 1941.

No Room for Him

(Melody: L. H. 64)

ALFRED E. BERG

When Jesus came to Bethlehem
There was no room for Him—
No room in homes or hearts of men,
Nor in the city inn.

A stable and a bed of hay,—
Most lowly place in town,
Was where the infant Jesus lay,
God's halo was His crown.

But out upon the plains that night,
The watching shepherds saw
The sky made bright with holy light,
Their hearts were filled with awe.

The heav'nly choir God's glory sang,
God's peace on earth to men—
From heaven to earth the music rang,
Sealed with the great Amen.

From angel lips came forth the word,
"To you this day is born
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord,"
To save a world forlorn.

Thus our dear Savior by His birth
In humble poverty,
A riches far surpassing earth,
Brought from eternity.

Across that manger, Calvary
Its dismal shadow cast;
In parents' arms He had to flee
From Satan's stormy blast.

The slaughter of the children was
Planned to include our King;
But Jesus grew to, by the cross,
Salvation to us bring.

It was divinely purposed so,
That He the Lord of all,
This cross-strewn path of life should go
To raise us from the fall.

Joy to the world is now our song,
The glad refrain us giv'n,
In answer to the angel throng
Who sang it first from heav'n.

When Jesus comes to you today
Do you have room for Him?
Or do you let Him outside stay
And latch the door within?

orrespondence

VANGELISTIC SERVICES AT WASHINGTON CONGREGATION

ntral Lutheran was greatly blessed by having the Rev. . Egertson, Los Angeles, Calif., ELC evangelist, con- ng a series of evangelistic services. He was scheduled e week beginning November 8, but extended his visit nore week, due to the fact that a revival broke out eople in large numbers came each evening to a definite on to accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord of their lives. mighty working of the Spirit by the Word was l from the very beginning. Young people, as well der people, came under the conviction of sin, and t help to find peace with God. One of the many of ounger people sent the pastor a letter of testimony, which we shall quote in part:

ll of my life I have gone to church and Sunday school hout believing in Jesus. I do not know why I didn't t Jesus before this, but I am so thankful that I did The worst thing that could happen to me now would be to go back to that empty life. My prayer now is that I will be able to help others as I have been helped."

Another young person gave testimony that she had now found that which was lacking in her life, and which she had so longed for. These testimonies could be multiplied by a large number, because every evening there were more than a dozen people seeking peace with their Lord.

One of the outstanding services was the service for married couples, whose combined age was not over 99 years. Since Pastor Egertson's wide experience in marriage counseling and other fields, such as navy chaplain, chaplain of Florence for Unwed Mothers, his lecture to this group was a signal blessing. Couple after couple came to him for help. Many of these were led to seek Him who alone can give peace and joy in the home. Yes, Pastor Egertson was a busy man while he was with us. Telephone calls came even as late as midnight for him to come to the homes to help those in spiritual need.

Pastor H. O. Egertson rendered, by the grace of God, a great service in our midst. We thank God for men like him and highly recommend his service to any congregation which is awake to the spiritual need of the day.

The Central Lutheran Church of Bellingham, and its pastor, wish Pastor Egertson God's continuous blessing in his work and a hearty welcome back for another series of evangelistic services in the near future.

(The Rev.) O. A. Jacobson
Bellingham, Wash.

Book Mission Brevities

(Continued from page 1182)

Bureau of Service to Military Personnel is an exception. This bureau has a tract fund and orders in large quantities for supplying chaplains ministering to our service men and women. Many pastors of denominations, other than our own order our tracts, requesting invoices. In such cases we comply.

Realizing that a great many individuals can be reached through LUTHERAN HERALD, we are using this column for the purpose of reminding our Book Mission friends that contributions are needed and will be most welcome now before the end of the fiscal year. The Book Mission has no membership roll on which to count in appealing for funds with which to carry on. No public meetings are held where the needs of this mission might be set forth.

You have a right to ask, Is it good stewardship to contribute to the Book Mission? I wish we could share with you some of the many letters received telling of blessings received through our printed messages, of souls won and kept for Christ. A letter from the state of Virginia recently reported how a criminal, while awaiting his sentence for double murder, took from his pocket our tract, "God Loves You." These words caused him to change his mind about committing suicide at the first opportunity. Now in prison for life, he has yielded his life to Christ and is urging his fellow prisoners to do likewise. A soul, in the estimation of Jesus worth more than all the world, saved by the operation of the Holy Spirit using one of our tracts. "What a Christmas this will be for us now that we know Him who came to save us!" From a letter received yesterday.

Dear Friend, why not a birthday gift to the Christmas Child? The Book Mission will glady receive it in His Name and use it to His glory.

News From Foreign Fields

(Continued from page 1183)

ministers to Bantu people speaking no less tha different African languages. The graduates of this class will enter the ministry in South Africa in as much as one thousand miles apart in the v provinces mentioned in the report.

"The Lutheran Theological Seminary in South A conducted by the Co-operating Lutheran Missions, pleted the four-year course of 1950-1953 by festive uation exercises on Thursday, the 12th of Nove Eighteen African students, from four missions, successfully passed their searching oral and writte aminations in eighteen theological disciplines and secular subjects, covering the entire course; and awarded the degree of Candidate of Theology as qualified to enter the holy pastoral office in the spective missions in various parts of Southern A including not only Natal, Zululand, the Transvaa the Orange Free State, but also Southern Rho Speakers were the Rev. Supt. G. Krause of the E Mission, chairman of the Co-operative Executive; op E. Sundgren of the Church of Sweden Mi convener of the College Board; Rev. Supt. N. M. I soe of the Norwegian Mission Society; the Rev Greve, superintendent of the Bethel Training In tion of the Hermannsburg Mission; Dr. Johs. As representing our American Lutheran Mission; and cipal J. E. Farup. Student J. Zulu, one of the gradu spoke on behalf of the graduating class. A new year course is to be opened in February, 1954; with the possibility of a steadily increased attend fuller participation by the missions, a projected buil program and eventual increase in the teaching the Seminary appears to be entering upon a perio expansion and greater service."

Within the E.L.C.

PERSONS

The Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Tallakson are serving respectively as chaplain and matron at the Lutheran Hospital for the Aged at Mondovi, Wis. The hospital was opened Dec. 1.

The Rev. Otto A. Jacobson, formerly of Ellingson, S. Dak., has moved to Kenyon, Minn. During the past fall he underwent major surgery; he is now reported to be convalescent.

The Rev. Arnold Edwards, Miller, Iowa, ELC treasurer of "All Lutheran Food Appeal" for Iowa, reports that by Dec. 3, $5,139.62 had been received from thirty parishes.

The Rev. Richard E. Larson, formerly of Vermillion, S. Dak., is now in charge of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Aiken, S. C., a service operated under the auspices of the Division of American Missions of the National Lutheran Council among workers of the Savannah River Project. His predecessor in this work, **the Rev. Otto Hesla,** is now field administrator of the Division of American Missions.

The Rev. Stewart N. Dale, ELC Board of Charities field worker among the deaf and the blind, has opened a preaching place for deaf people in Minneapolis, with Bethany Church on Franklin Avenue as meeting place.

The Rev. Louis Hagen, who has been serving as interim pastor of First Lutheran Church, Humboldt, Iowa, for the past six months, will term this service Feb. 1, 1954. Mrs. H had the misfortune to break her hip on Thanksgiving Day; her c tion is reported as satisfactory.

Mrs. Anna Olsen Espeseth, N towoc, Wis., widow of the Rev. C Espeseth (who died in 1940), p away Nov. 24.

DISTRICTS

Eastern

Perth Amboy, N. J. Our Savi Church, parish of the Rev. John Ness commemorated its founding years ago on Thanksgiving Day the founding took place on Tha giving Day in 1868, and its first ch building was dedicated on Tha giving Day two years later. A no feature of the celebration was a g

WISCONSIN CHURCH BURNS CANCELED MORTGAGE

Nov. 8, five years after the dedication of its $321,000 church building, which today sents a value of half a million dollars, First Lutheran Church of Stoughton, Wis., d its canceled mortgage. Without any special solicitations the congregation has off the indebtedness by means of annual offerings. In the foreground of the mpanying picture Raymond Asleson is seen burning the mortgage, faced by John nsrud. Beside the pastor, the Rev. Amos W. Stolen, are seen three officers of the h: Obert Asleson, Norman R. Hanson, and H. T. Christensen.

from the Rev. V. B. Skov, pastor e church 1889-1925, and still liv- at the age of 94 years. Indeed all one of the five pastors who have d the church since 1889 are living. ng the past fall improvements of ch property amounting to $5,000 been made. Since October two lay forenoon services have become sary. By means of a unified church get system the congregation had by mber met its ELC budget appor- ment, its LWA goal, and its State teran Welfare contribution.

ldwin, N. Y. Long Island Junior al Union, directed by the Rev. B. Eid, gave Nov. 29 a concert of d music at Bethlehem Church in win. Five choirs participated: jun- choirs from Christ Church, East low; Grace Church, Uniondale; Saviour's, Glen Head; Trinity, n Terrace; and Bethlehem, Bald- The Long Island Senior Choral n is preparing to give a concert h 7 at Christ Church, East Mead-

ern Minnesota

acy, Minn. Rural Willow Lake ch dedicated Nov. 22 several altar shings given the church in mem- of pioneer members of the congre- n. The dedication was performed he Rev. L. B. Brakke, assisted by rs E. Rommereim and O. E. lin, the latter the pastor of the ch; on the same occasion a sum noney was presented to Pastor Daehlin in recognition of ten years of ministry in the congregation.

Clarkfield, Minn. Clarkfield Church, parish of the Rev. P. L. Mork, held its annual mission festival Nov. 25-26, the offerings reaching the highest total in the history of the church: $3,865.10. Speakers were Dr. J. E. Gronli and Missionary Lillian Landahl. In the evening of Thanksgiving Day colored slides taken in Zululand by the Rev. Theo. Homdrom, whose missionary stipend is paid by the Clarkfield Church, were shown.

North Dakota

Finley, N. Dak. The Finley Church, parish of the Rev. O. A. Jordahl, observed its fiftieth aniversary Nov. 19, 20, and 22. The first anniversary celebration, that of the Ladies Aid, took place Thursday, Nov. 19. Among the speakers was Mrs. S. J. Peterson, the only living charter member present. Other speakers were Mrs. Anne Nelson Sandblade, Mrs. Gertrude Boe Overby, and Mrs. Bertha Tollefson Michelsen, the latter two being daughters of two earlier pastors of the congregation. A history of the Ladies Aid was read by Mrs. A. H. Overby. On the following day a program was given by representatives of various organizations of the church: the Ladies Aid, the Luther League, the LDR, the Sunday school, and the choir. On Sunday morning the sermon was preached by the Rev. Egbert T. Boe, Menomonie, Wis., and at the anniversary program in the afternoon an address was given by the Rev. Victor C. Boe, Moorhead, Minn., both speakers being sons of the late Rev. V. E. Boe, who served the Finley Church 1903-09 and 1917-41.

Hettinger, N. Dak. The new church edifice being erected by Hettinger Church, parish of the Rev. M. Lutness, is nearing completion.

Pacific

Seattle, Wash. Bethel Church, located in a new section of the city, has carried on this year a lay evangelism program under the slogan "A Family for Me in Fifty-Three." As a result twelve families, totaling thirty-five per-

NEW MICHIGAN CHURCH DEDICATED

The church building pictured above, the new house of worship of Bethlehem Church, Muskegon Heights, Michigan, was dedicated Sunday afternoon, Oct. 25, by Dr. Martin Anderson, president of the Eastern District. This service was preceded by three prededication services held respectively Friday evening (Oct. 23), Saturday evening, and Sunday forenoon. The sermon at the first service was preached by the Rev. C. N. Hanson, pastor of Bethlehem 1934-44; at the second by the Rev. C. J. Groettum, Bethlehem pastor 1945-50; at the third by the present pastor of the church, the Rev. Glenn Groth. The cost of the new church, furnishings included, totals about $109,000.

sons, were received into membership Nov. 15, the third anniversary of the congregation. The same day a Pocket Testament League dinner was held, the speaker being the Rev. E. V. Stime, dean of the Seattle LBI. Of the new members received 33 were baptized Nov. 15. Last spring 22 were baptized as a result of a similar campaign. In January another class will be ready for baptism. The pastor of Bethel Church is Dr. Carl O. Pederson.

Sweet Home, Oregon. A new church, named Fir Lawn Lutheran Church, was formally organized Nov. 29 in this city, with a charter membership of 101. Work was begun in Sweet Home in the middle of last summer, the first service being held Aug. 30. A new parsonage is nearing completion, and plans for a church building are being drawn. At present, services are held in rented quarters. The pastor of this new congregation is the Rev. Oliver Everette.

LUTHERAN HOME RESCUE MISSION, CHICAGO

Lutheran Home Rescue Mission, an organization doing missionary work among colored folk in Chicago, recently held its 19th annual fall rally. The main speaker was the Rev. Owen Gangstead, pastor of Grace Church, Chicago. Miss Valborg Johnson, superintendent of the Mission's Sunday school, reported an average attendance of somewhat in excess of 200. The Rev. P. C. Dumas, colored pastor of the Mission, told about the efforts to establish a Lutheran Church among the city's more than half million colored people. Sidney Swenson, superintendent of the Mission, stated that insurance covered the greater part of the loss which the Mission suffered through a fire last spring, but urged the need of gifts to cover the rest.

NORTHERN MINNESOTA CHURCH DEDICATED

The new church of Salem congregation at Hitterdal, Minn., parish of the Rev. Car Holm, was dedicated Sunday afternoon, Nov. 1, by Dr. A. E. Hanson, president o Northern Minnesota District, who also preached at the 80th anniversary service o church earlier in the day. The church is built of native field stone. Much of the cons tion work was done by members of the congregation, a circumstance which greatly red building costs. Erection of the church began in 1948, during the pastorate of the A. H. Amundson.

OBITUARIES

The Rev. Knut Seehuus

The Rev. Knut Seehuus, Decorah, Iowa, passed away Dec. 1, in his 95th year and in the 70th year after his ordination. He was born May 3, 1859, at Bud, Romsdal, Norway. Came to the United States in 1872. Was graduated from Luther College in 1881 and from Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in 1884. He served parishes in New York 1884-86, at Lo Iowa, 1886-1917 (interrupted b short period of service 1889 at Mer onie, Wis.), and in Denver, C 1920-24. His first wife, nee Elisa Stub, died in 1887; his second nee Helga C. Vedeler, in 1937. P Seehuus wielded a facile pen.

Dr. Nils Kleven

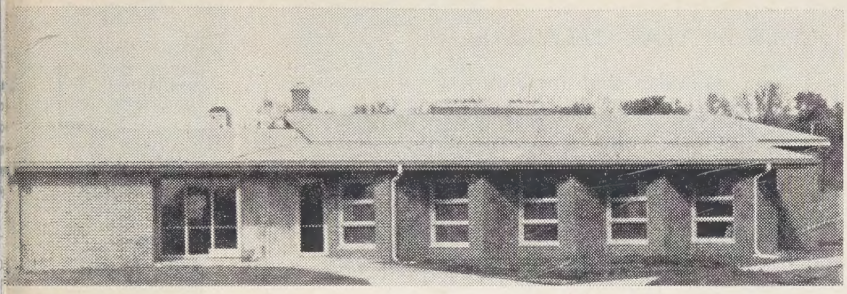
The Rev. Nils Kleven, D.D., dis president of the Southern Minne District 1927-51, died in Madi Wis., Sunday evening, Dec. 6, in

75th year. Funeral services were Dec. 10 at Bethlehem Church, Mi apolis, Dr. J. A. Aasgaard and the

NEW PARSONAGE OF ELC PARISH IN ALPENA, MICH.

Pictured herewith is the new parsonage recently bought and renovated by Grace Church in Alpena, Michigan. The house, which is of brick and limestone construction, is located one and a half blocks from the church building of the congregation. This parish is served by the Rev. Mikkel Lono.

DEDICATION IN ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA



nday afternoon, Nov. 8, the new house of worship of Gloria Dei Church, a new con-gation in Rochester, Minn., was dedicated by Dr. E. C. Reinertson, president of the uthern Minnesota District. At the morning worship the same day he had installed the v. J. B. Shefveland as pastor of this new parish, which has a charter membership of 5. Immediately before the afternoon church dedication service, the parish parsonage s dedicated by the Rev. Abner Haugen, pastor of the older ELC parish in the city. e new church is located in a new, fast-growing section of Rochester. The Sunday school mbers 111 pupils, the choir 18 members, and the women's guild 34. The congregation ects very soon to become wholly self-supporting.

aynard Iverson officiating. Dr. Klev- was born May 3, 1879 at Litchfield, nn., to the Rev. A. N. Kleven and fe Kirsten, nee Bjorndahl. He was aduated from St. Olaf College in 01 and from the United Church minary, St. Paul, in 1904. He did stgraduate work in 1906-07 at the ipzig University, Germany, and 07-08 at Princeton University, receiv- his M.A. degree in 1908. In 1929 was awarded the doctor of divinity gree by St. Olaf College. He served following pastorates: Beloit, Wis., 04-06; Albert Lea, Minn., 1908-11; John's at Northfield, Minn., 1915- (after a four-year period of teach- at St. Olaf College). With leave absence he served 1917-18 as camp tor at Camp Dodge in Iowa. After ving as vice president of the South- Minnesota District 1925-27 he be- ne president of the district serving that capacity for 14 years. Since his rement he has lived in Madison, s. He is survived by his wife, nee bel Ellefson, three daughters, eight grandchildren, and two sisters. His daughter Elizabeth is the wife of the Rev. A. M. Jothen, Lanesboro, Minn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Sale: An Estey church organ in very good condition, by Hjerdahl Lutheran Church. Write to Mrs. Tebert Thoreson, Voltaire, N. Dak.

Wanted: A used church bell. Write full particulars to Ole Ourenhagen, Nome, N. Dak.

Wanted: Used piano or organ, Sunday school chairs, and other items needed by a Home Mission congregation in the Minneapolis area. Write or call ELC Home Mission Dept., 426 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.; tel. Fillmore 6361.

Wanted: Some used copies of Concordia Hymnal by a newly organized congregation at Kamiah, Idaho. Write the Rev. Richard M. Waag, Nezperce, Idaho.

For Sale: One Lennox oil burner (approx. 450,000 to 500,000 B.T.U.); one Meyer oil burner (approx. 250,000 to 300,000 B.T.U.), both in good condition and suitable for heating a church of 300 seating capacity. Contact trustees of Trinity Lutheran Church, Newman Grove, Neb.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS FOR PASTORS

(And dates when they become effective)

C. O. Larson, 4424 Samoset Ave., San Diego, Calif. (11-15-53)

H. J. Brown, 3149 Waverley, Palo Alto, Calif. (11-15-53)

Luther Borgen, 2010 Laurel Ave., Eau Claire, Wis. (1-15-54)

Albert O. Tastad, Lost River, Alaska. (10-12-53)

A. H. Thorsen, 8393 Seaview Ave., Castro Valley, Calif.

R. A. Ramseth, 13961 Archwood St., Van Nuys, Calif. (11-15-53)

Opie S. Rindahl, 1009 Southview Blvd., So. St. Paul, Minn. (2-17-54)

H. S. Skilbred, Crosby, N. Dak. (12-1-53)

J. O. Ronsberg, 713 2nd St. N., Fargo, N. Dak.

Chap. Reuben E. Sorensen, MSTS Pier 37, c/o Staff Chaplain, Seattle 4, Wash. (11-20-53)

B. L. Duckstad, 725 Armstrong Ave. S., Litchfield, Minn. (11-30-53)

PARISH CONSERVATION AND EXTENSION THROUGH . . .

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE

The Placement Service of the E.L.C. serves many people each year. Read the listings below. They may be of value to you or someone that you know. The merits of the propositions advertised have not been investigated and the Placement Service assumes no responsibility in the matter. Send your ads and communications to: The Placement Service of the E.L.C., 422 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota. (Refer to ad number when inquiring.)

FOR SALE

Farms

For sale—120 acre farm in southwest Wisconsin. 80 acres under plow. Balance pasture and timber. Full basement home, with furnace and water, 86 ft. basement barn, other buildings. Lutheran church. Priced to sell; very easy payments. 341-1A

For sale—good half section of land with good buildings. Farm electrified. 2½ miles from Ryley, Alberta. 341-2A

For sale—240 acres on good market road, buildings fair to good. Close to church and town in Alberta, Canada. 341-3A

Good ranch for sale with excellent buildings, electricity, and gas. Close to Kinsella, Alberta. Excellent for man with sons. 341-4A

For sale—half section of land with fair buildings. Located on blacktop road, near good town. Canada. 341-5A

169 acre farm located less than three miles from town in Stearns Co., Minnesota. This farm is for sale on account of old age of owner. Can be bought on very easy terms. $75 per acre. Possession any time. 341-6A

80 acre farm all equipped or farm only in Sherburne County, Minnesota. 341-7A

200 acre dairy farm for sale in northern Minnesota on hard surface road, REA, phone, school bus route, mail route. Large barn, modern house, and other buildings. Two wells. Fine Lutheran community and good school. Owner called to other work. 341-8A

For sale—120 acre farm with modern house. Located in Goodhue County, Minnesota. Level land, school bus service. Terms. 341-9A

For sale—160 acre farm with large dairy barn and other improvements for sale in Goodhue Co., Minnesota. Level land nearly all tillable. 341-10A

Homes

For sale—Modern 2 bedroom home, main street. Goodhue Co., Minnesota town. $4,500. Ideal for retirement. 341-11B

Businesses

For sale—Cafe, established, clean, home cooking. $3,500. $50 rent, including living rooms. 341-12C

Established suburban grocery business two blocks from new school in county seat town, south central Minnesota. The building is new and has modern living apartment leading into store. Lutheran community. 341-13C

For sale—large general store in Viking, Alberta. Good community and the store has excellent location. Can be bought reasonably or terms arranged. 341-14C

HELP WANTED

Father and two young children need a middle-aged housekeeper. Modern home in small city, southern Minnesota. 341-15F

Opening in a fine ELC Christian day school in southern California for a combination kindergarten teacher (mornings) parish secretary (afternoons) for the year 1954-1955. 341-16F

Lutheran doctor wanted in Red River Valley county seat town. Good farming community in North Dakota, new hospital, office and living quarters. For more information write. 341-17G

Wanted—Elderly man for chores and odd jobs. Prefer a Christian man who would like to make his home here. Southern Minnesota. 341-18G

Wanted—Christian couple to operate fully equipped modern dairy farm beginning May 1. Must be efficient, reliable, and honest. Good offer to responsible party. 341-19G

CALENDARS

DAY BY DAY WITH JESUS 1954

For Family and Private Devotion

Prepared by Dr. E. R. Bertermann

A block calendar for the wall or table. A exalting devotional message for each day, pra hymn selection, special Bible readings, biograph historical events for which each day is famous. tions are in loose-leaf form secured in a boxlik tainer attached to calendar back. Be sure to early!

In Gift Box, only $1.50

5 copies (sent to one address), $7.00

CHURCH YEAR CALENDAR 1954

A wall calendar that inspires daily Christian living through Scripture and art. The Church Year Calendar features a daily Bible reading schedule, a Scripture thought for each day, festivals and seasons of the church year, a guide to liturgical colors. The selected monthly illustrations are in color. A metal binding facilitates turning pages. Size 9½x15½.

35c each

BIBEL TEKST KALENDER

A Scripture verse wall calendar i Norwegian language gives you months of beauty, inspiration and cal service. There is a selected Bible for each day, with morning and ev lessons indicated. There is a bea Bible scene in colors for each month metal binding keeps calendar secure. plete with cord for hanging. Size 9

35c each; 3 for $1.00

YEARBOOKS

1954 LUTHERAN YEARBOOK Edited by the Reverend T. P. Solem

A valuable E.L.C. reference book giving complete geographical listing of p listing of college faculties, boards and committees, and church officials. In also up-to-date information on the various activities of the Church.

50c each; $5.50 a Cod

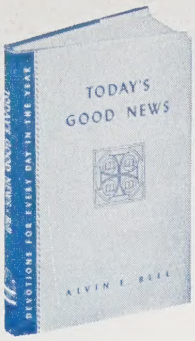
1954 FOLKEKALENDER Edited by the Reverend Olaf Holen

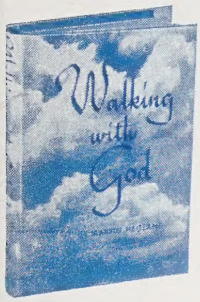
Similar to the Lutheran Almanac and Yearbook but published in the Norw language.

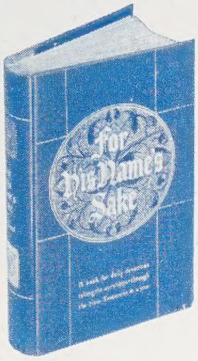
50c each; $5.50 a Cod

AUGSBURG PUBLISHING HOUSE Minneapolis 15, M

PACIFIC LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY THE LIBRARY







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Newborn

Maynard E. Stokka

Shepherd hands are used to the touch of new birth,
The dip, the drench, the shearing and sleep of their sheep.

Shepherd ears are accustomed to listen for the night-borne spear,
To the day-time shafts among shadow,
To bird flight, lion prowl, and wolf echo,
The young lamb's nibble on new browse.

Who could tell that out of the soft and ringing stillness of a shepherd's night
Choiring chimes of heaven would toll?
What human voice could waft the wing of wisdom
And kindle lights on weathered faces?
What footfall of dread obedience could create for these keepers
Hearts newborn . . . swaddling shrines in sheep corral,
Foundling mangers where sheep may fold?

Only the Spirit over the Void hovers and broods
On the face of the Deep—
Only God would dare create and live
And in a manger sleep.